Increase in rape cases in Delhi

†1698. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the incidents of rape are increasing day by day in Delhi;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there has been an increase of nearly 21 per cent in the incidents of rape of women in 2005 as compared to that of 2004;

(c) whether it is also a fact that innocent girl children and minor girls are also becoming victims of rapists; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the details thereof alongwith the measures for its prevention?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. RAGUPATHY): (a) and (b) There was increase of 19.4% in the number of rape cases reported in Delhi in the year 2005 as compared to the number of such cases reported in the year 2004.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The reasons for increase in rape cases include perversion of mind, heterogeneous character in society, rapid urbanization, lack of respect towards women, inadequate living space, etc. It has been found that large majority of rapes are committed by persons known to the victim. The steps taken by Delhi Police to prevent rape cases include establishment of Crime Against Women Cells; setting up of Rape Crises Intervention Centres in all the nine Police Districts; association of Women Police Officers and NGO in investigation of rape cases; setting up of three Special Courts headed by women judges; networking with Non-Governmental Organisations; deployment of staff in plain clothes at vulnerable places; starting of dedicated telephone help lines; constitution of 'Women Mobile Team' to attend to distress calls from women on round-the-clock basis; self-defence training programme and the recently launched scheme "Parivartan" under which lady beat constables have been deployed in selected slum areas.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.